

Dimasa finalizes second major Chilean deal in as many months with Veolia Environnement

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Dimasa Grupo has just finalized its second major deal in Chile in the space of just two months, according to Francisco Andrés, technical director of the company's wastewater and biogas segment, Dim Water Solutions.

Just this month, the Barcelona-based company's Dim Water Solutions unit reached an agreement with **Veolia Environnement SA** to

provide a leachate treatment solution that will purify wastewater at a capacity of 600 m³ per day while also reducing sludge. The plant will be built next year, according to Andrés.

That deal comes on the back of one sealed last month with **Caterpillar Inc's** licensed distributor, Finning, to supply a biogas purification system for a Chilean biogas-to-energy project that will generate 2MWh. The system, which purifies biogas from particulates, sulfuric acid, siloxanes and volatile organic compounds, represents the first application of the technology in Chile. However, some parts of Dimasa's biogas product line, which comprises a system that upgrades biomethane to 98% purity.

Dimasa's most notable participation in Latin America's biogas and/or wastewater treatment industry has been in Mexico, where it supplied biogas purification systems for a wastewater treatment plant, thereby helping generate 30MW of electricity. The Hidalgo-based Atotonilco plant, in which fellow Spanish company **Acciona SA** also participated, was commissioned last year with a processing capacity of approximately 3m m³/day.

Despite certain countries like Chile providing subsidies for biogas projects, the industry's mixed track record has resulted in limited interest from financiers. However, Dimasa's financial resources have enabled Dim Water Solutions to thrive in such an environment, a development which is all the more significant given the context of the unfavorable regulatory framework that has been in place in Spain since about 2011. In addition to providing ten year warranties, Dimasa will often participate in the financing of a project that uses its systems while also offering to operate its biogas plants for any duration requested by its clients.

Elsewhere in the region, Dimasa recently closed a desalination deal in Ecuador and just started entering the Cuban market by providing water tanks and filtration systems, according to Andrés. The technical director views the company's membrane-based solutions as its most distinguished product offering.

Established in 1986, Dimasa Grupo was initially founded to manufacture plastic and polyester components for the industrial sector. In 2010, it created Dim Water Solutions, dedicated to provide various wastewater treatment and biogas solutions. The company has two factories, one in Barcelona where the high-skill engineering takes place and one in Puebla, Mexico, where the polyester tanks, storage systems, and other compact systems.

Dimasa has been commercially active on all five continents, according to Andrés, and it has on the ground employees in Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and in Africa and Europe. He described the company as being medium-sized, and hinted that its revenues were below USD 50m.